

homeland really is a strong component of the Transportation Security Subcommittee.

You have been a leader along with the ranking member. I look forward to working with you, and I believe that the Homeland Security Committee and the Homeland Security Department are key factors in securing the homeland in the backdrop of this new threat of ISIL as all of the other committees work together on making sure that Americans are safe.

I conclude by asking my colleagues to support H.R. 5462 and to support the idea of a fair and balanced assessment on passenger security fees.

Mr. Speaker, at the outset, I would like to commend the Chairman of the Subcommittee on Transportation Security, Representative HUDSON, for the bipartisan approach he has taken with this legislation.

H.R. 5462 seeks to remove any confusion about a key provision of the "Bipartisan Budget Act of 2013." As enacted into law in December 2013.

Section 601 of that law provided for the aviation security fee that Transportation Security Administration collects to increase to \$5.60 per one-way trip.

The language did not specifically cap the fee for a round-trip ticket but common sense would tell us that Congress intended the passenger fee for a round-trip to be twice that of a one-way trip or \$11.20.

Regrettably, TSA has missed this intent, resulting in some passengers being assessed excessive fees.

The legislation before us today clarifies that the passenger security fee should be capped for a round-trip at twice the rate assessed for a one-way trip.

Mr. Speaker, for the better part of five months, the Committee on Homeland Security and others in Congress have been engaged in back-and-forth with TSA on this issue.

It is my sincere hope that enactment of this legislation will resolve this issue, once and for all, for the American flying public. Mr. Speaker, simply put, this straightforward, bipartisan, legislation will ensure that passengers are no longer charged air transportation fees above and beyond what Congress envisioned and intended.

I urge all Members to support H.R. 5462 so that TSA can no longer charge passengers security fees above and beyond what is reasonable and what Congress intended.

I yield back the balance of my time.
Mr. HUDSON. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I would like to thank Ranking Member RICHMOND, Chairman MCCAUL, Ranking Member THOMPSON, and Ranking Member JACKSON LEE for their work on this issue, and I appreciate the comments the gentlewoman had tonight. I would echo that I appreciate the bipartisan nature in which she works on issues on the Homeland Security Committee. I appreciate the relationship we have had. I respect the gentlewoman very much. I appreciate the advice that she has given me, and I appreciate the cooperation under which we have worked throughout this Congress.

I think this product that we bring to the floor today is an example of bipar-

tisanship of the best kind—where we can come together, Republicans and Democrats, and work for the betterment of the American people. I thank the gentlewoman for that very much.

Mr. Speaker, I would also like to submit a letter from the airline industry in support of this bipartisan bill.

SEPTEMBER 16, 2014.

Hon. MIKE MCCAUL,
House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

Hon. RICHARD HUDSON,
House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

Hon. BENNIE THOMPSON,
House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

Hon. CEDRIC RICHMOND,
House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN MCCAUL, CHAIRMAN HUDSON, RANKING MEMBER THOMPSON AND CONGRESSMAN RICHMOND: On behalf of Airlines for America (A4A), I am writing to reiterate our strong support for H.R. 5462 that would require the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) to cap the September 11th Security Fee (\$5.60 per one-way trip) for a round-trip at twice that of a one-way trip (i.e., \$11.20).

In an effort to streamline the passenger security fee and eliminate a "per-enplanement" fee structure, Congress applied a flat fee of \$5.60 per one-way trip under the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2013 (Pub. L. 113-67). The intent was to simplify the fee assessment and cap the passenger security fee for a round-trip at twice that of a one-way trip, as has been TSA's long-held policy. Unfortunately, when TSA implemented the higher fee on July 21, 2014, the agency eliminated the round-trip cap.

While the Act simplified the fee structure, Congress otherwise intended to leave the pre-existing regulatory structure in place. This is unmistakably clear from the limited revisions to the statute. Congressional intent has been emphatically underscored by the Members of Congress who were responsible for drafting these revisions, House Budget Committee Chairman Paul Ryan (R-WI) and Senate Budget Committee Chairwoman Patty Murray (D-WA), in a letter to TSA an Administrator John Pistole (May 6, 2014). This change was made against the backdrop of the existing cap on the fee for a round-trip that was twice the maximum one-way fee.

Under H.R. 5462, which would require TSA to honor the round-trip cap, passenger security fees would be limited to \$5.60 per one-way trip and \$11.20 per round-trip. Airlines and their passengers are already paying more than their fair share of federal taxes and fees. The passenger security fee increase that took effect in July will cost airline passengers—who paid a near-record \$2 billion in aviation security taxes in 2013—over \$1.2 billion annually or \$12.6 billion over the next decade. As a result of the passenger security fee increase, government-imposed taxes and fees now constitute \$63, or 21 percent, of the cost of a typical \$300 domestic round-trip ticket. To add insult to injury, eliminating the round-trip cap will result in airline passengers paying about \$60 million more per year than Congress intended.

Thank you for your leadership and for fighting for the traveling public on this important issue. We stand ready to help ensure swift, bipartisan approval of H.R. 5462 by the House.

Sincerely,

NICHOLAS E. CALIO.

Mr. HUDSON. As the chairman of the Transportation Security Sub-

committee, I am committed to finding commonsense solutions that reduce taxes and make air travel more accessible, leading to more frequent trips, increased tourism, and more dollars invested in our local economies.

I urge my colleagues to vote "yes," and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. MCCAUL. Mr. Speaker, I strongly support H.R. 5462, and I am proud to be an original cosponsor of this important bipartisan legislation. This bill clarifies Congressional intent on the matter of security fees incurred by airline passengers and corrects the Transportation Security Administration's misinterpretation of the Bipartisan Budget Act's minor modifications to these fees.

TSA should not collect additional passenger security fees beyond what Congress has authorized. H.R. 5462 is common sense, bipartisan legislation to clarify the fee structure that Congress intended and protect the traveling public from millions of dollars in excess charges on their flights.

I applaud Subcommittee Chairman HUDSON, as well as Ranking Member THOMPSON and Ranking Member RICHMOND for working together on a bipartisan basis to address this problem. I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, earlier this year, the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) ignored the clear Congressional intent of the Bipartisan Budget Act (P.L. 113-67) (BBA) and began collecting aviation security fees beyond the round-trip limitation that has existed since the Aviation Security Act of 2001. TSA had every opportunity to work with Congress to adjust the fee collection structure, but they unfortunately chose to ignore both the intent of the BBA and the concerns of individual members.

H.R. 5462 re-institutes the round-trip cap through statute, ensuring that passengers will not be made to pay a security fee in excess of what is authorized by Congress. Because the Congressional Budget Office has updated its baseline projection to incorporate TSA's incorrect implementation of the BBA, H.R. 5462 has a cost. However, passage of the bill will return security fee receipts to the level originally estimated by the CBO upon passage of the BBA.

I thank my colleague, Mr. HUDSON, for introducing this bill and I fully support its passage.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. HUDSON) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5462.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. HUDSON. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

FIGHTING EBOLA

(Ms. JACKSON LEE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I thought it was extremely important to rise today to congratulate the President on recognizing the crucialness of the fight against this horrific disease Ebola in Africa.

I have been in Africa over the last 4 or 5 months. Ebola is devastating to the West African countries. They have been fighting on their own, but it has been recognized that they do not have the infrastructure to be able to contain the disease. We are sending 3,000 of our men and women of the United States military but, as equally important, we are providing for the self-made hospital containers that can be utilized to provide the infrastructure for these countries to be able to fight Ebola.

There is no medical system existing now because everyone is fighting, and therefore everyone is, in essence, ensuring that the illness is not taken care of. This is a crisis. We need to be engaged, and we need to fight against Ebola so it can be extinguished and the people in Africa can get back to their lives again.

□ 2200

THE ISLAMIC STATE

(Mr. GOHMERT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, I was in agreement with the President going after IS but not with people we can't trust.

Andy McCarthy has a great article here entitled, "But They Were Really Moderate Beheadings," pointing out that the people the President wants to support actually are guilty of beheadings themselves. But apparently they are moderate beheadings.

It is also important to note that Hezbollah has released a statement saying that President Obama is not determined enough to confront IS. And they said: "Those who delve deeper into the American stance will notice that Americans accept IS in our region while trying to prevent it from spreading to their country."

This is not the way to go. These people cannot be trusted. It is time for us to either help the Kurds—since Turkey is not willing to face this crisis by putting boots on the ground and actually fighting IS for us, then arm the Kurds. I know the Turks are afraid of that. But we are more concerned about IS.

Help the Kurds. And let's wipe out IS but not with free Syrians we can't trust.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mrs. CAPITO (at the request of Mr. MCCARTHY of California) for today on account of a death in the family.

Mr. RUSH (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today.

ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

Karen L. Haas, Clerk of the House, reported and found truly enrolled bills

of the House of the following titles, which were thereupon signed by the Speaker:

H.R. 4197. An act to amend title 5, United States Code, to extend the period of certain authority with respect to judicial review of Merit Systems Protection Board decisions relating to whistleblowers, and for other purposes.

H.R. 5134. An act to extend the National Advisory Committee on Institutional Quality and Integrity and the Advisory Committee on Student Financial Assistance for one year.

SENATE ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

The Speaker announced his signature to an enrolled bill of the Senate of the following title:

S. 276. An act to reinstate and extend the deadline for commencement of construction of a hydroelectric project involving the American Falls Reservoir.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 2 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Wednesday, September 17, 2014, at 10 a.m. for morning-hour debate.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

7126. A letter from the FSA Regulatory Review Group Director, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's "Major" final rule — Margin Protection Program for Dairy and Dairy Product Donation Program (RIN: 0560-AI23) received September 5, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

7127. A letter from the Congressional Review Coordinator, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Animal Welfare: Importation of Live Dogs [Docket No.: APHIS-2009-0053] (RIN: 0579-AD23) received August 19, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

7128. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Nondiscrimination in Programs or Activities Conducted by the United States Department of Agriculture (RIN: 0503-AA52) received August 15, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

7129. A letter from the Acting Chief Counsel, FEMA, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Suspension of Community Eligibility; Allegheny County, PA, et al. [Docket ID: FEMA-2014-0002] [Internal Agency Docket No.: FEMA-8347] received September 2, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

7130. A letter from the Acting Chief Counsel, FEMA, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Suspension of Community Eligibility; Pike County, IN, et al. [Docket ID: FEMA-2014-0002] [Internal Agency Docket No.: FEMA-8345] received September 2, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

7131. A letter from the Associate General Counsel for Legislation and Regulations, Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting the Department's final rule — Manufactured Housing Program Fee: Final Fee Increase [Docket No.: FR-5721-F-02] (RIN: 2502-AJ19) received September 3, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

7132. A letter from the Associate General Counsel for Legislation and Regulations, Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting the Department's final rule — Removal of Emergency Homeowners' Loan Program Regulations [Docket No.: FR-5795-F01] (RIN: 2502-AJ24) received August 19, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

7133. A letter from the Deputy Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting the Commission's "Major" final rule — Asset-Backed Securities Disclosure and Registration (RIN: 3235-AK37) received September 4, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

7134. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Employee Benefits Security Administration, Department of Labor, transmitting the Department's final rule — Coverage of Certain Preventive Services Under the Affordable Care Act (RIN: 1210-AB67) received August 26, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

7135. A letter from the Deputy Director, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule — Acquisition Regulations (RIN: 0991-AB87) received August 19, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

7136. A letter from the Chief, Broadband Division, Wireless Telecommunications Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Amendment of Parts 1, 21, 73, 74 and 101 of the Commission's Rules to Facilitate the Provision of Fixed and Mobile Broadband Access, Educational and Other Advanced Services in the 2150-2162 and 2500-2690 MHz Bands [WT Docket No. 03-66] (RM-11614) received August 20, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

7137. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Congressional Affairs, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Light Load Handling System and Refueling Cavity Design [NRC-2013-0148] received August 18, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

7138. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Northeast Multispecies Fishery; Trip Limit Adjustment and Trimester Total Allowable Catch Area Closure for the Common Pool Fishery [Docket No.: 140106011-4338-02] (RIN: 0648-XD357) received August 22, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

7139. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pacific Ocean Perch in the West Yakutat District of the Gulf of Alaska [Docket No.: 130925836-4174-02] (RIN: 0648-XD375) received August 11, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.